

Executive Office of the President
Office of Management and Budget
Washington, D.C. 20503

March 14, 2008

The Honorable Lurita A. Doan
Administrator
U.S. General Services Administration
1800 F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20405

Dear Ms. Doan:

This letter is in response to your agency's request to serve as an executive agent for the Commerce Information Technology Solutions Next Generation (COMMITTS NexGen) contract. COMMITTS is an \$8 billion, 10-year, contract for information technology (IT) support services that was awarded by the Department of Commerce (DOC) in January 2005.

The Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) designated DOC as the executive agent of COMMITTS NexGen on June 9, 2004, and subsequently extended the designation through the end of the COMMITTS contract period in 2015. On June 27, 2007, DOC advised OMB that it sought to terminate its role as executive agent and transfer responsibilities to another agency. DOC'S letter included a "dclaration of intent" outlining steps the Department was taking in partnership with the General Services Administration (GSA) to transfer the contract to GSA.

Your staff advised OMB that GSA has performed a due diligence review of the COMMITTS contract files, customer service agreements, and financial records and has concluded that continued operation of COMMITTS as a government-wide acquisition contract (GWAC) will facilitate agency access to competitive small businesses. They believe such designation would complement other small business vehicles that are currently operated as GWACs by your Small Business GWAC Center.

I am granting GSA's request and designating GSA the executive agent for the COMMITTS NexGen contract. This designation is subject to the authorities and limitations of existing law as well as the terms and conditions of OMB's August 9, 2006 designation of GSA as an executive agent for other GWACs and any successor designation that OMB may issue. The designation is further subject to the following understandings:

Prior to placing orders, or authorizing orders to be placed, under the COMMITS GWAC, GSA shall:

- o ensure COMMITS is compliant with the size standards regulations promulgated by the Small Business Administration (SBA); and

- o make any necessary and appropriate adjustments to the COMMITS ordering procedures, in consultation with SBA, after reviewing the issues raised by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) in its June 14, 2006 report on COMMITS, GAO-06-791R COMMITS NexGen, relating to contract holders' eligibility to be considered for individual task orders (i.e., the "tier system"). These adjustments should include a requirement for ordering agencies to provide North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes and corresponding size standards to be considered for receipt of each order.

GSA shall adopt appropriate performance measures to ensure the goals of the COMMITS program are being met.

We look forward to working with you to ensure that COMMITS provides agency customers with effective access to cost-effective and quality small businesses to meet their varied needs for IT services.

Sincerely,

Jim Nussle
Director

Cc:
The Honorable Carlos M. Gutierrez
Secretary of Commerce